

SPEAKER CANNON CAUSES SURPRISE

Complexion of Committee Leads to the Belief that Financial Legislation Will Be Pressed.

(By Associated Press.)
WASHINGTON, Dec. 3.—The annual message of President Roosevelt was read today in both houses of congress. Practically no business was attempted by either body beyond listening to the message. The reading consumed about two and a half hours in each house.
Speaker Cannon treated the house to a surprise in announcing the membership of committees, which led to the conclusion on the part of many that it was his intention to press financial legislation, but those who are close to the speaker say that his only purpose was to afford a depository for petitions and letters bearing upon the currency question. Both the senate and house adjourned almost immediately after the conclusion of the reading of the message. The house adjourned until Thursday, when it is probable it will again adjourn for the week.

Excerpts From the Message.

President Roosevelt yesterday sent his message to congress, excerpts of which are here given. The president answers the criticisms that have been showered upon him by the trusts and their friends in the opening paragraphs of the message, which are as follows:

No nation has greater resources than ours, and I think it can be truthfully said that the citizens of no nation possess greater energy and industrial ability. In no nation are the fundamental business conditions sounder than in ours at this very moment; and it is foolish when such is the case, for people to hoard money instead of keeping it in sound banks; for it is such hoarding that is the immediate occasion of money stringency. Moreover, as a rule, the business of our people is conducted with honesty and probity, and this applies alike to farms and factories, to railroads and banks, to all our legitimate commercial enterprises.

In any large body of men, however, there are certain to be some who are dishonest, and if the conditions are such that these men prosper or commit their misdeeds with impunity, their example is a very evil thing for the community. Where these men are business men of great sagacity and of temperance both unscrupulous and reckless, and where the conditions are such that they act without supervision or control and at first without effective check from public opinion, they induce many innocent people into making investments or embarking in kinds of business that are really unsound. When the misdeeds of these successfully dishonest men are discovered, suffering comes not only upon them, but upon the innocent men whom they have misled. It is a painful awakening, whenever it occurs; and, naturally, when it does occur those who suffer are apt to forget that the longer it was deferred the more painful it would be. In the effort to punish the guilty it is both wise and proper to endeavor so far as possible to minimize the distress of those who have been misled by the guilty. Yet it is not possible to refrain because of such distress from striving to put an end to the misdeeds that are the ultimate causes of the suffering, and, as a means to this end, where possible to punish those responsible for them. There may be honest differences of opinion as to many governmental policies; but surely there can be no such differences as to the need of unflinching perseverance in the war against successful dishonesty.

With regard to interstate commerce, the message says in part: The anti-trust law should not be repealed; but it should be made both more efficient and more in harmony with actual conditions. It should be so amended as to forbid only the kind of combination which does harm to the general public, such amendment to be accompanied by, or to be an incident of, a grant of supervisory power to the government over these big concerns engaged in interstate business. This should be accompan-

ied by provision for the compulsory publication of accounts and the subsection of books and papers to the inspection of the government officials. A beginning has already been made for such supervision by the establishment of the bureau of corporations.
Dwelling upon the subject of currency, the president quotes from his message of a year ago, and then goes on to say:
I again urge on the congress the immediate attention to this matter. We need a greater elasticity in our currency; provided, of course, that we recognize the even greater need of a safe and secure currency. There must always be the most rigid examination by the national authorities. Provision should be made for an emergency currency. The emergency issue should, of course, be made with an effective guaranty, and upon conditions carefully prescribed by the government. Such emergency issue must be based on adequate securities approved by the government, and must be issued under a heavy tax. This would permit currency being issued when the demand for it was urgent, while securing its retirement as the demand fell off. It is worth investigating to determine whether officers and directors of national banks should ever be allowed to loan to themselves. Trust companies should be subject to the same supervision as banks; legislation to this effect should be enacted for the District of Columbia and the territories.
Yet we must also remember that even the wisest legislation on the subject can only accomplish a certain amount. No legislation can by any possibility guarantee the business community against the results of speculative folly any more than it can guarantee an individual against the results of his extravagance. When an individual mortgages his house to buy an automobile he invites disaster; and when wealthy men, or men who pose as such, are unscrupulously or foolishly eager to become such, indulge in reckless speculation—especially if it is accompanied by dishonesty—they jeopardize not only their own future but the future of all their innocent fellow-citizens, for they expose the whole business community to panic and distress.

The president favors a revision of the system of revenue legislation. Regarding the tariff, he says that the country is definitely committed to the protective system, and any attempt to uproot it would result in disaster. He believes that the inheritance tax should become a part of our system of federal taxation. In the matter of the enforcement of the law, he says, the course of the department of justice has been to proceed against the wealthiest manufacturer whose crime was one of greed and cunning as against the agitator who incites to brutal violence. He refrains from a discussion of injunctions as the matter is soon to receive the attention of the supreme court.

(Continued on Page 4.)

EDITOR DIES FROM PISTOL WOUNDS

(By Associated Press.)
KANSAS CITY, Dec. 3.—H. J. Groves, managing editor of the Kansas City Post, who was wounded November 23 by General Richard Horne in the editorial rooms of that paper, died here this morning. Mr. Groves' condition was reported favorable up to a day or two ago. Mr. Groves was 56 years old.

O. D. Woodward, president of the Post company, who was shot at the same time as Groves, is still in his bed, but it is expected that he will recover. General Horne is out on bond and is at his home in Marshall, Mo. He will be arrested and returned to Kansas City and a charge of murder preferred against him.

STOCK MARKET EXTREMELY DULL

(By Associated Press.)
NEW YORK, Dec. 3.—Prices were put through a remarkable series of fluctuations today at the stock exchange without any perceptible explanation for the changes. Later trading fell into extreme dullness. The last prices of the stocks after numerous fluctuations were about the lowest of the day. Bonds were irregular.

GOLDFIELD MAN TAKES POISON

(By Associated Press.)
OAKLAND, Dec. 3.—Hobart Hobbs, son of Mrs. H. Hobbs, who is in Berlin, died this morning in Fabiola hospital from the effects of bichloride of mercury tablets, which he had been using as a medicine. He took an overdose in Reno, Nevada, ten days ago.

Hobbs sustained a severe injury in a fire in Goldfield a year ago, when he was badly burned in fighting fire. He did not recover from the effects of his injuries and brooded over this. The body is at the morgue, where an autopsy is to be held. The funeral is to be in San Francisco, at Mount Olivet cemetery.

Mrs. Charles E. Bancroft, wife of a well-known real estate man, was his aunt, and W. F. Hobbs of the Western Meat company a brother. He had another brother, F. G. Hobbs, now in Goldfield.

The dead man was 28 years old.

ROLLING MILLS CLOSE TEMPORARILY

(By Associated Press.)
BRISTOL, Conn., Dec. 3.—The iron rolling mills here have shut down temporarily, throwing 150 men out of employment. One hundred and fifty coke stoves at Stonega, Va., have shut down and 500 men are idle.

DEATH OF FRANCIS O'NEILL.
(By Associated Press.)
LONDON, Dec. 3.—Francis O'Neill of the London staff of the Associated Press, died at his home today, after an illness of several weeks. Mr. O'Neill was widely known in newspaper circles in the United States.

TO GOVERN HORSE RACING

(By Associated Press.)
LEXINGTON, Ky., Dec. 3.—Leading breeders of Kentucky met here today to take steps toward forming a new jockey club to govern racing in the west. It is intended that the new organization shall eventually supplant both the Western Jockey club and the Eastern Turf association. It is hoped that reciprocal relations with the Eastern Jockey club may be established.

MAKES ITS FINAL REPORT

OLIVER GRAND JURY DISCHARGED FROM FURTHER SERVICE.

(By Associated Press.)
SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 3.—After having met on 100 separate days on which 115 sessions were held and having returned 441 indictments, involving forty-seven persons, the Oliver grand jury made its final report to Superior Judge Coffey this afternoon, and was discharged from further service by the court. In all 597 witnesses were brought before the Oliver grand jury during the time between its first assembling on November 9, 1906, and its final adjournment today. Most of its work has been concerned with indictments against grafters and bribers connected with municipal affairs, and public utility corporations of San Francisco. The final report is a voluminous document and says: "We cannot even outline the vast amount of evidence received by us showing corruption and vice of the lowest kind and involving the greatest moral turpitude, such as the participation of the former mayor of our city in the profits earned by the prostitution of lowest of fallen women."

"These abuses which we found to exist in the more important departments of the city government," continues the report, "will continue to exist in a measure until the honest enforcement of the laws and ordinances continually prevail. Unlawful and corrupt protection given by the police to vice for benefit pecuniarily and politically of the heads of the administration and many of the rank and file of the departments is unbelievable. If it were not for the low character of the witnesses examined and a tangled mass of contradictory testimony submitted, much of it undoubtedly perjured, but in a way that perjury could not be legally proven, indictments would have been found for extortion and conspiracy in forming a house of ill-fame trust. Our 'crib houses' have no equal in the world for villainess."

The report scores the police courts for not imposing more heavier penalties in the cases of strikers arrested for misdemeanors during the street car strike and that many lives were lost in consequence. The United Railroad company is severely scored for its negligence and the criminal carelessness of the men in charge of its cars and many accidents in which people have been killed, crippled or maimed. The report recommends many changes in the conduct of some theaters, which are spoken of as fire traps and a recommendation is made that they be closed. The city and county hospital should be torn down, the report says, as it is a nest of deadly germs.

RAILWAYS ARE REDUCING FORCES

(By Associated Press.)
ST. LOUIS, Dec. 3.—In compliance with orders issued by Vice President Clark of the Missouri, Pacific and Iron Mountain systems, 100 employees of the auditing, engineering and mechanical departments of the system were dismissed today. It is understood that other will be dismissed until 500 are out. The statement is made that the order resulted from the general stringency in the money market and on overplus of employees. It is learned that other railroads will take the same course by the end of the week.

FIRE DESTROYS ARMY BARRACKS

(By Associated Press.)
LEAVENWORTH, Kan., Dec. 3.—Fire supposed to have originated in defective electric wiring tonight destroyed the west wing barracks occupied by the West Wing barracks infantry, entailing a loss to the government of \$15,000.

DOUMA'S ACTION IS DISAPPOINTING

(By Associated Press.)
ST. PETERSBURG, Dec. 3.—The douma adjourned at a late hour tonight without coming to any vote on the ministerial declaration. The expectations that the Octoberist party would define its principles of program proved disappointing. The speeches of the Octoberist leaders were marked by half-hearted criticisms of the government's program, but they reserved judgment in the matter.

BANK CASHIER'S BODY IS FOUND

(By Associated Press.)
LAWTON, Okla., Dec. 3.—With his head and shoulders floating above the water, the body of D. R. Rankin, the missing cashier of the defunct Merchants and Planters' bank, was found this afternoon by an Indian boy in Cache creek, two miles north of Lawton. Rankin disappeared on November 7, immediately after the bank closed. It is believed he suicided. Rankin owed the bank \$3100 on an unsecured note and his accounts were short \$662.03. He carried \$25,000 life insurance payable to his wife. He made a will shortly before his death, conveying other property to his wife and three babies.

CONSTANTINOPLE BANK IS CLOSED

(By Associated Press.)
CONSTANTINOPLE, Dec. 3.—As a result of the monetary difficulties in the United States a series of failures have occurred here lately, culminating today in a suspension of the Armenian Banking Commercial establishment in Stamboul. The liabilities of the house amount to over a million and the assets are estimated at a somewhat lower figure. Several local concerns were affected by the suspension, but the Ottoman bank came to their rescue and prevented a general financial collapse.

BERLIN'S UNDERGROUND.

(By Associated Press.)
BERLIN, Dec. 3.—The traffic commission of the municipality of Berlin has decided to build an underground railroad running through the heart of the city. The cost of the new line is estimated at \$15,000,000.

MRS. BRADLEY EXONERATED

(By Associated Press.)
WASHINGTON, Dec. 3.—"Not guilty," was the verdict in the case of Mrs. Bradley, who was charged with the murder of former Senator Brown. The jury came in this morning at 10:25, after being out all night.
The verdict was reached on the second ballot, which was taken just after midnight, but there was not a hint of what it was in court until it was read by the clerk. Mrs. Bradley had spent a sleepless night, and looked ill. She was pale, and tried to appear calm, but the tremor on her lips, the spasmodic action of her eye and the heaving of her bosom showed the tumult that was raging within.
The announcement of the verdict created a commotion in court, which the bailiff was unable to suppress and the admonition of the judge was powerless to prevent. Women shrieked and clapped their hands and cheered. Mrs. Bradley gave a great gasp, started forward and then fell back in her seat, overcome with emotion. She left the court with her lawyers.

Hold Conference on Currency Legislation

(By Associated Press.)
WASHINGTON, Dec. 3.—A conference was held at the White House this evening between the President and Senators Aldrich of Rhode Island and Crane of Massachusetts on the subject of currency legislation. Aldrich stated at the conclusion of the conference that nothing definite had been decided upon.

VERDICT OF NOT GUILTY

TIREY L. FORD, ACCUSED OF BRIBING SUPERVISORS, IS FREE.

(By Associated Press.)
SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 3.—After being out less than five hours the jury in the case of Tirey L. Ford charged with bribing supervisors to obtain an overhead trolley franchise, at 11:05 o'clock tonight brought in a verdict of not guilty.

ARRESTED AFTER DESPERATE FIGHT

(By Associated Press.)
LOS ANGELES, Dec. 3.—Following a desperate fight with pistols and fists, Patrolman Anthony Connelly late this afternoon overpowered and arrested Harry Mitchell, who is wanted on the charge of murdering Officer Lyons last Saturday night. A hundred persons followed the patrol wagon to the police station, crying "Lynch the man," and a squad of police was required to prevent them from seizing the prisoner. Connelly will receive \$250 reward offered by the city council today for the capture of Mitchell.

RECORD BROKEN AT EMERYVILLE

(By Associated Press.)
SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 3.—Two-fifths of a second were clipped off the world's record for five furlongs this afternoon in the fourth race at Emeryville race track. The event was the Petaluma handicap. Jack Nunnally covered the distance in 58 3/5. The record was formerly held by George F. Smith, who negotiated the distance in 59 flat on the old Bay District track in this city.